**How to Speak Like an Educated Professional**

*Ideas for how to start your sentences…*

**Making Observations**

I noticed \_\_\_\_\_.

If you look at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you’ll see that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Expressing an Idea**

In my opinion, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I think that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I strongly believe \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Asking for Clarification**

What do you mean by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

Will you explain that to me/us again?

I have a question about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Reporting a Classmate’s Idea**

Building on what X said, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

X pointed out to me that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Soliciting a Response**

What do you think, X?

We haven’t heard from X yet.

X, what are your thoughts?

**Offering a Suggestion**

Maybe we could try \_\_\_\_.

You/we might think about \_\_\_\_\_.

You/we might consider trying \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Testing Ideas**

If \_\_\_\_ were true, then \_\_\_\_\_\_.

How does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ make sense?

**Affirming**

I agree with \_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_.

I share X’s point of view: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Making Predictions**

I guess/predict/imagine that \_\_\_\_.

Based on \_\_\_\_ , I infer \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Drawing Conclusions**

After reading \_\_\_\_\_, I conclude that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

Based on \_\_\_\_\_\_, I assume that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Referencing the Text**

In paragraph \_\_\_\_, I read that \_\_\_\_\_.

When I read/saw \_\_\_\_\_, I thought \_\_\_\_\_.

X, where in the text do you find that?

**Reporting a Group’s Idea**

We decided/agreed/determined that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

We concluded that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Paraphrasing**

So what \_\_\_\_\_ is saying is that \_\_\_\_.

In other words, you think \_\_\_\_\_\_.

If I understand you correctly, your idea/suggestion is that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Holding the Floor**

As I was saying, \_\_\_\_\_\_.

What I was trying to say was \_\_\_\_\_.

Let me make my point a different way: \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Interjecting an Idea**

I would like to add an idea.

Can I say something?

**Disagreeing**

I disagree somewhat/completely: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I see it differently: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.